

2011- Year in Review

We are proud to announce that The OK Clean Water Project has completed another successful year in 2011. The many supportive partners and the collaborative partnership between the OK Clean Water Project here in Ottawa and the OK Clean Water partners in Kumbo, Cameroon make this all possible. As a result we can proudly state that thirty three villages now enjoy clean water and a better quality of life.

Frequent communication by email with Cathy Molloy and Edwin Visi, who oversee the projects in Kumbo, keep us abreast of the progress of the water projects and the training sessions for water management committees, caretakers and standtap committees. Ongoing efforts in education for sustainability are being emphasized to ensure the long term maintenance of each village project. Teaching charts are being distributed in the villages to assist in the sustainability of each project.

In July of 2011 six students from Engineers Without Borders (EWB) from Cambridge, England traveled to Kumbo and spent the month surveying the pipeline, estimating the cost and were also engaged in the physical labour. The time spent made it possible for the village of Sakir to finish the water project in record time. Engineers Without Borders also contributed financially. Adam Bouland, one of the Engineers Without Borders, came to our annual Brunch in October and gave an excellent presentation with powerpoint photos of his work experience in Kumbo and expressed his gratitude to the Cameroonian people who were so welcoming.

The year 2011 was a financial success. We were able to send \$100,000 to Kumbo over the year and this amount is thanks to the generosity of many supporters of this life giving project. Thirty one schools raised almost \$40,000, our Annual Brunch and Silent Auction raised \$7300, BBQ's and The Night at the Races over \$5,000 and other fundraising activities brought in approximately \$800. We also have very generous regular donors, some of whom contribute through the OK Clean Water Project website -CANADA HELPS- while others contribute through regular mail-in donations.

Over the past year we were saddened to lose two of our board members due to relocation. Bill and Jeannine Lawlor have been very loyal and supportive members for a number of years. We continue to keep in touch and keep them informed of events and activities as well. We thank Bill and Jeannine for their ongoing support and we wish them good health and happiness in their new home.

We are also happy to announce our two new board members- Hilder Langwa and Evelyn Tanyi. Both Hilder and Evelyn come from Cameroon and they share with us their knowledge of the country and the culture. We are so grateful to have them with us.

As we continue with our activities throughout 2012 we are looking ahead to the year 2013 when we will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the OK Clean Water Project. This will be a very special year when we will reflect back in gratitude on all that has been accomplished over the past ten years. Celebrations will also take place in the many villages in Cameroon where they enjoy the gift of clean water. We will also look to the future so that we may give the gift of clean water and therefore a better quality of life to more villages who wait in hope. Water is Life!

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